(d) what steps are being taken by Government to get the jail vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There is no prisoner who continues to remain lodged in the Central Jail, Tihar after he has served his sentence.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Crude bombs detected at New Delhi Railway Station

4254. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some crude bombs were detected at New Delhi Railway Station recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some crude bombs exploded in a running train in Mumbai;

(c) if so, what are the intelligence reports on the possible terrorist targets; and

(d) what further steps are proposed to be taken to enhance security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The intelligence reports suggest that the possible terrorist targets are VIPs, symbols of national importance, crowded places, etc.

(d) The steps taken to beef up the security arrangements in the National Capital Territory of Delhi include intensification of beat patrolling; developing intelligence on terrorist activities; close watch and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals and terrorists; checking of persons and baggages particularly in crowded places; regular checking of guest houses and intensification of vigilance at border check posts.

Amendments in Foreigners' Act

4255. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend Foreigners' Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposed Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to amend Section 14 of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to enhance the existing punishment up to a maximum of eight years and fine which would not be less than Rs. 10,000 and which may extend up to Rs. 50,000 for serious nature of offences.

(c) The Bill has already been introduced in Rajya Sabha.

Border fencing

4256. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to undertake border fencing in Kutch area bordering Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof with completion schedules;

(c) has the border fencing work in Jammu and Kashmir undertaken;

(d) the areas covered so far and remains to be covered; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the border fencing and the likely date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to carry out fencing works in a length of 310 Kms. in the area bordering Pakistan in Gujarat Sector including the Kutch area.

(b) This is a composite project involving construction of road on raised embankment, construction of border outposts, providing barbed wire fence, etc. At present 62 Kms. of road and embankment have been completed while barbed wire fence has been provided in 16 Kms. stretch. The entire work is targeted to be completed by March, 2005.

(c) to (e) The Government has also decided to carry out fencing works in 180 kms. length on the International Border in Jammu Sector. So far fencing work has been completed in 55 kms. length. Protective bunds are being raised to protect the Border Security Force personnel as well as civil labour from direct observation and firing from across the